

FY 2003 Wetland Program Development Grants - - Call for Proposals

U.S. EPA New England Region is soliciting proposals from state agencies for FY 03 Wetland Program Development Grants. For this fiscal year, and in keeping with recently issued national guidance (67 FR 54810, August 26, 2002), the EPA New England EPA will be awarding competitively awarding FY 2003 Wetlands Program Development Grants to States.

While the WPDGs can continue to be used by recipients to build and refine any element of a comprehensive wetland program, priority will be given to funding projects that address the three priority areas identified by EPA for FY '03:

- 1) developing a comprehensive monitoring and assessment program;
- 2) improving the effectiveness of compensatory mitigation; and
- 3) refining the protection of vulnerable wetlands and aquatic resources.

In addition, the New England Region will expect all application work plans to include or address the following:

- A. Clearly written and detailed proposals listing each task and deliverable, including clear goals, schedules, site maps;
- B. An explanation of how/why the project outcome has a high likelihood for positive, environmental results in both the short and long term;
- C. Project results, methods, and/or approaches that are transferable to other state, tribal, and/or local governments. Identify measures of success and include the number of wetland acres affected by project;
- D. For applicants who have received EPA funding for prior projects under this program, the lessons learned and applied, or other changes made to this current proposal based upon past experience that will improve the current proposal;
- E. A budget with costs broken down by tasks and a description of the significant level of financial and staff commitment, and how this proposal contributes to broader state, local, or tribal agency objectives;
- F. If applicable, how this proposal incorporates the work of partners (e.g., local governments or NGOs) in achieving the goals of the project;
- G. Region 1 requires a 25% match of the total project cost. The proposal needs to show the federal amount you are requesting from EPA, a 25% minimum match from your agency, and the total amount for the project. Use the following formula: requested EPA amount, divided by 75% equals total amount for the project. Subtract the EPA amount from the total, and that is the minimum required match. (Example: EPA amount \$50,000; project total is \$66,667; required 25% match is \$16667) Your match may exceed 25%.
- H. Explain if your agency has an approved Quality Management Plan(QMP). It must be updated annually. If the project involves sampling or data collection, a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) will be required.

EPA New England is sending you this call notice to formally request your proposals for funding under one or more of the allocation categories listed above. Completed applications are due no later than May 27, 2003. Remember that all proposals must include a 25% match (based upon the entire project cost, not just the federal share), which may be met with funds or with in-kind services. Applications should be sent to the following address:

Jeanne Cosgrove (CSP)
U.S. EPA New England Region
One Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

Questions should be directed to Jeanne Cosgrove at 617-918-1669, or cosgrove.jeanne@epa.gov.